



South Dakota Department of the Military South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



STAFF AT STATE VETERANS HOME RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP



Inside this issue:

Pheasants Forever Support Veterans	2
Message from the VA Regarding Government Shutdown	3
SDNG Cancels Drill Due to Government Shutdown	3
Deadwood Veterans Salute	4
White River Stand Down	5
Clay County Wall of Fame	5
Upcoming Events	6

In a recent visit to the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home, Governor Dugaard and Lt. Governor Michaels recognized four staff members for their ongoing service and commitment to South Dakota's Veterans.

Randall Meyers, (second from left) director of operations, was recognized for his 24/7 service. He is the bridge that keeps the team connected.

Kay Payton, (third from the left) MDS Nurse, was recognized for exceptional work and dedication in resident care, MDS record keeping, and staff training.

Matt Stephan, (fourth from left) senior building maintenance worker, was recognized for exceptional service to all residents and staff with their maintenance needs and for always volunteering for special events.

Laura Inman, (second from the right) NCU/SCU activities director, was recognized for exceptional work and dedication in conducting group and individual activities in the nursing department.

Hats off to all the staff at the MJF State Veterans Home!!!!

PHEASANTS FOREVER SUPPORT VETERANS

The Pheasants Forever Chapter from Mitchell will be having their 28th Annual Banquet on October 18th at the Corn Palace in Mitchell, with doors opening at 5 p.m.

This year they will be sponsoring a Veterans Raffle Table. Any veteran or service member buying a banquet ticket will be eligible for a free raffle at the veterans table. Among the prizes are the following: gun case, Cabela's gun safe - holds 22 guns, custom engraved M1 grand gun stock, lasered wood pheasant picture, and BROOSTERS Dakota cuisine cookbook.

To sign-up for this Veterans/Service Member ONLY Raffle:

- 1) Purchase a 2013 Mitchell SD Pheasant Country Banquet ticket
- 2) Attend the Banquet
- 3) Stop at the Veterans Table to put your bidder's number on a raffle ticket

Banquet tickets are \$50 and available in advance at:

- ◇ The Mitchell Chamber of Commerce
- ◇ From any Pheasant Country committee member
- ◇ At Cabela's on the 17th or 18th of October
- ◇ Leader Sporting Goods on the 18th of October
- ◇ Nancy Hyatt 605-449-4787 or 605-999-9851
- ◇ At the door

For more information, please call 605-449-4787 or email Nancy Hyatt at hyattn@triotel.net.



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The Black Hills NW Nebraska Community
presents:

Shrine of Democracy Chorus and The Abbey Road Band

In a benefit concert, free will donation,

Saturday, November 16 Doors open at 6 p.m.

Concert begins at 6:30 p.m.

Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn Rapid City, SD

All proceeds will go towards furnishing client rooms at the new Michael J Fitzmaurice South Dakota Veterans Home.

(This is a family friendly event)

The Michael J. Fitzmaurice South Dakota Veterans Home is not affiliated with or endorsed by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. No products will be sold. For additional important disclosure information, please visit Thrivent.com/disclosures.

MESSAGE FROM THE VA

The President, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the administration strongly believe that a lapse in appropriations should not have occurred on October 1, 2013, and Congress should act to fund critical Government operations. During the government shutdown, VA medical centers, clinics and other health services have advance appropriations for 2014 and will remain open. The VA has funds available to ensure claims processing and payments in the compensation, pension, education, and vocational rehabilitation programs will continue through late October. However, in the event of a prolonged shutdown, claims processing and payments in these programs will be suspended when funds are exhausted.



The VA has produced a two-page information sheet, the Veterans Field Guide to Government Shutdown, which summarizes all of the services that will be available and those that will be impacted by potential lapse in appropriations. This file will be updated as needed. The VA's detailed contingency plan is also available — see links below:

Message from President to U.S. Government Employees:

<http://www.va.gov/opa/docs/Message-from-the-President-to-US-Government-Employees.pdf>

Veterans Field Guide to Government Shutdown

http://www.va.gov/opa/docs/Field_Guide_20130927.pdf

Appropriations Lapse Contingency Plan

http://www.va.gov/opa/docs/VA_Contingency_Plan_Document_20130927.pdf

SD GUARD CANCELS DRILL DUE TO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

The South Dakota Air and Army National Guard has cancelled the October 5-6, 2013, scheduled drill assembly as a result of the government shutdown. Due to the lapse in federal appropriations, select units of the South Dakota National Guard are in the process of contacting their members to inform assigned Soldiers and Airmen that drill is canceled for this upcoming weekend and, provided the federal government passes a budget for 2014 or a long-term Continuing Resolution, is re-scheduled for October 26-27.

Not all SD National Guard units are affected by the decision to re-schedule the October 5-6 drill assembly. Units preparing for an upcoming mobilization will still drill and some units were scheduled to drill on other weekends in October. Soldiers and Airmen of the SD National Guard are encouraged to contact their units for further guidance on scheduled drill assembly for October.

In spite of the government shutdown, the National Guard remains available for call-up in the event of a natural disaster or state emergency.

Currently, there are over 200 SDNG Soldiers and Airmen serving in combat in Afghanistan or deployed to the Middle East.





PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!
You are invited to attend

**DEADWOOD'S VETERANS SALUTE:
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
Saturday, November 9, 2013**

1 to 2 pm WELCOME RECEPTION
2:00 pm PARADE Four Aces to Deadwood Mountain Grand
3:00 – 4:00 pm PROGRAM @ Deadwood Mountain Grand Event Center
4:00 – 5:30 pm FREE MEAL
2:00 – 5:00 pm SILENT AUCTION

CASH RAFFLE TICKETS FUNDRAISER
RAFFLE TICKET for 50/25/25 split

SOUTH DAKOTA FALLEN HEROES BANNER DISPLAY @ Deadwood VFW
Open Daily to the Public Saturday, Nov. 9 thru Monday Nov. 11, 2013

FREE ADMISSION Saturday, November 11, 2013 from 10 am – 4 pm
Adams Museum at 54 Sherman Str.,
Historic Adams House at 22 Van Buren Str.
Days of '76 Museum at 1876 Drive Rodeo Grounds

***ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT: Wounded Warriors & SD Fallen Heroes Traveling Banner Display
Event Sponsored by the Deadwood Business Club***

WHITE RIVER STAND DOWN

The Veterans Affairs Black Hills Health Care System (VABHHCS) will host a Veterans Stand Down and Benefits Fair on Wednesday, October 9. The event will be open to all veterans from 10 am–3 pm CDT at the Catholic Hall, 421 N Main in White River, South Dakota.

The Stand Down and Benefits Fair, is intended to serve homeless and needy veterans from Mellette, Todd, and Jones Counties and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. There is no charge for any of the services.

The Information and Benefits Fair, held on Oct. 9th is an outreach effort to bring information regarding services and benefits available to veterans. Representatives from the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Regional Office, the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs and County and Tribal Veterans Service Offices will be on-site to provide priority processing on all benefit claims submitted during the stand down.

The event is a collaborative effort between the VA Black Hills Health Care System, South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, South Dakota Career Center, Black Hills National Cemetery, Veterans Benefits Administration, and Veteran Service Officers.

A variety of personal care items will be available to veterans wishing a hand up, and lunch (sponsored by the Rosebud Sioux Tribe) will be served. Staff will be available to hear issues, answer questions, and provide information on VA benefits, programs and health care enrollment opportunities. Basic health services will be provided. Veterans will also be able to make future health care appointments at VA Black Hills. Veterans who have not previously enrolled with the VA are requested to bring a copy of their military discharge papers, DD 214, to the Benefits Fair.

For more information about the Stand Down at White River call (605) 516-0057.

CLAY COUNTY WALL OF FAME

If you're ever in the Vermillion area, a must see is the Clay County Wall of Fame. And a must read is an article Randy Dockendorf did recently in the Yankton Press and Dakotan about the Clay County Wall of Fame. Here is the link: http://www.yankton.net/community/article_82fd8082-2978-11e3-891c-0019bb2963f4.html.

A vision started by former Clay County VSO Dave Wherry, has grown to 765 photos and growing at a rate of over



twelve a year. Yes, folks that 765 framed and hung photos!!!!

Clay County VSO Cynthia Aden is honored to be surrounded by veterans from every conflict and war era.

Upcoming Events

2013

Oct 4-6—VFW Fall Council Meeting—Oacoma Resort
Oct. 7—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am
Oct. 8—SFVAHCS Veterans Benefit Fair—Sioux Falls
Oct. 9—Stand Down—White River
Oct. 18—1978th AQ Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Rapid City
Oct. 22—SDDVA Fall Mini Conference—Sturgis - Veterans Club, 868 Main Street—10:00 am (MT)
Oct. 23—SDDVA Fall Mini Conference—Pierre - American Legion, 520 S. Pierre Street—10:00 am
Oct. 24—SDDVA Fall Mini Conference—Brookings - 520 3rd Street—10:00 am
Oct. 29—South Dakota's Veterans Commission Meeting—RedRossa Italian Grille—Pierre—8:00 am
Nov. 9—Deadwood Veterans Salute
Nov. 18—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—DAV Headquarters in Sioux Falls—10:00 am
Dec. 14—Wreaths Across America Ceremony Wildwood Mausoleum at the Hills of Rest Memorial Park—300 N. Chapel Hill Road—Sioux Falls—11:00
Dec. 14—Wreaths Across America Ceremony—Black Hills National Cemetery—10:00 am

2014

Jan. 25-26- 235th MP Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Chamberlain
Jan. 31—SD Veterans Council Breakfast with Legislators—6:30 am
Feb. 8- 129th MPAD Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Rapid City
April 5-6- 152nd Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Pierre



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